

of the wings is decidedly more conspicuous in that species than in *C. wolfi*.

In the specimens before me the middle feather of the tail bears one transverse mark near its base in *C. wolfi*, whereas the corresponding feather bears four such marks in *C. maillardi*. In each species there is also a single mark near the end of the feather; but both this and the markings on the upper portion of it are much more distinct in *C. maillardi* than in *C. wolfi*. The shaft-markings on the throat in *C. wolfi* are browner than in *C. maillardi*, and on the breast and abdomen they are not only browner but also broader, extending in *C. wolfi* to the under tail-coverts, which in *C. maillardi* are of a pure white.

The inner side of the primaries in *C. maillardi* are a pure white near their base, the remainder being black. In *C. wolfi* the basal parts are yellowish white, and the remainder of the underside of the primaries are of a pale slate-colour, crossed with narrow bars of a darker slate-colour at intervals of about an inch, the tips of the feathers being also dark.

The young male of *C. wolfi* resembles *C. maillardi* in a similar state, but is not so dark in its plumage, and is more rufous in the region of the abdomen, in which it resembles the young male of *Circus assimilis*.

14. NOTICES OF SOME APPARENTLY UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF SAPAJOUS (CEBUS) IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. BY DR. JOHN EDWARD GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., F.L.S., ETC.

(Plate XLV.)

The distinction of the species of the American Monkeys is very difficult, and perhaps the genus *Cebus* the most difficult of all. Next to the difficulty of distinguishing them is that of determining the names which have been applied to them by different authors, and (what ought not to be the case) the determining of the figures, given by Spix and others, representing the species under consideration.

This mainly arises from the great variation of colour that the specimens of the same species present.

The difficulty has also been increased by the works of compilers like Lesson and Wagner, who depend on the descriptions of authors without having the opportunity of examining species to correct their theories, and yet venture to decide what are species and what varieties: and the result shows how dangerous it is for compilers to venture to go beyond the author from whom they copy.

M. Isidore Geoffroy has shown that *Cebi* when in confinement, especially in a dark place, become bleached; and he believes that specimens so decolorated have often embarrassed zoologists and led them into error (Castelnau, 'L'Amér. du Sud, Mammifères,' p. 10, note).





There are two good essays on this genus, both based upon the collection in the Jardin des Plantes at Paris, which contains the type specimens described by the older French zoologists (viz. MM. I. Geoffroy, F. Prevost), and in Pucheran's 'Catalogue Méthodique de la Collection des Mammifères,' Paris, 1851, and Dr. A. G. Dahlbom's 'Studia Zoologica,' vol. i. 1856. The latter gives comparative descriptions of the species, drawn up in the form of tables.

I have compared these with the large collection of specimens in the British Museum, and believe that the species I have here described are not contained in them.

In stuffed specimens there is to be observed a considerable difference in the length and slenderness or thickness of the fingers, and at one time I thought this might afford a good character; but I observed that the fingers of those that are short when adult appeared to be longer and more slender in younger specimens, and I am not satisfied that part of this difference may not depend on the art of the taxidermist.

I believe that the manner in which the hair is distributed on the head is a good character, but this is one which requires careful examination; for the animal-preserver, by carelessness or by design, sometimes disfigures specimens in this respect. But the difference between natural distribution and disfigurement is easily discovered by careful study.

The greater number of species have a generic coloration; that is to say, the side of the head, the chest, and the front of the fore legs, and often the shoulders and outside of the thighs, are paler-coloured than the rest of the body. A few of the species are at once known by the distribution of their colours, as *C. leucocephalus* by its white head, chest, and shoulders, all the rest of the body being dark in this species; *C. leucogenys*, *C. cirrifer* and *C. vellerosus* are known by their uniform black colour, and *C. flavescens* by its nearly uniform pale yellow; *C. xanthocephalus* is known from the others by the yellowness of the hinder part of the body before the thighs.

The species in the British Museum may be thus arranged:—

I. *Hairs of the crown reflexed, bent back round the face, forming a short, erect crest over each eyebrow. Colour uniform.*

1. *C. LEUCOGENYS*, sp. nov. (Pl. XLV.)

Fur blackish, soft, elongate, silky, with a thick underfur; hair of head short, of the circumference of the face reflexed; cheek and temple pale yellow.

*Hab.* Brazil.

II. *Hairs of the crown bent back; those on the sides of the dark crown-spot elongate, in the perfect state forming two more or less erect crests or tufts.*

2. *C. APELLA*, I. Geoff., is the hornless, and *C. fatuellus*, I. Geoff., the horned state.

3. *C. ELEGANS*, I. Geoff. = *C. pallidus*, Gray.

*Hab.* Bolivia.

4. *C. CIRRIFER*, I. Geoff.

5. *C. VELLEROSUS*, I. Geoff.

Perhaps a thicker-furred variety of the former.

The younger specimens, and sometimes the older ones, are destitute of crests in all these five species, and therefore may be confounded with those of the next section.

Fig. 1.

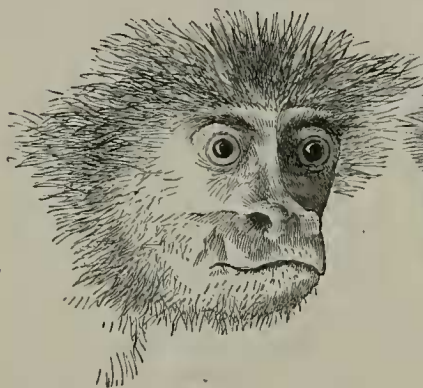


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

III. *Hairs of the crown short, reflexed, adpressed, not forming any crest.*

6. *C. CAPUCINUS*, I. Geoff.

7. *C. XANTHOCEPHALUS*, Spix, = *C. monachus*, Fischer.

8. *C. ALBIFRONS*, I. Geoff.

9. *C. HYPOLEUCUS*, I. Geoff.